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Home Appliance *NewsLine*

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Major Appliance Shipments Continue Advancing in August

CHICAGO -- The major home appliance industry shipped nearly 3.9 million units in August for a gain of 8.2% (or 290,900 units) over the same month one year ago, reports the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM).

Total year-to-date shipments of 30.4 million units reflect a healthy 5.0% increase over the same eight-month period last year.

Refrigerators, which led 1992's shipment advance thus far, fell short in August, as did compactors. All other appliance categories, however, surpassed their year-ago levels, with some achieving new records:

- **Disposers** increased 9.5% to 388,900 units, a record August shipment for the product.
- **Washers** also increased 9.5% to 574,500 units, the second-best washer shipment ever for the month.
- **Freezers** increased 19.9% to 165,500 units, their best August level since 1980.

Home comfort appliance shipments increased dramatically during the month, but the cause was comparison of relatively normal August levels to the unusually low levels of one year ago.

According to the latest industry forecast compiled in August, appliance shipments this year should exceed 45.1 million units. This, an upward revision from the May outlook, represents a 4.8% increase over last year's total.

Note: 1991 and 1992 microwave oven shipments have been revised because of adjustments to import figures.

# # #

MAJOR HOME APPLIANCE INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS*, THOUSANDS OF UNITS
August, 1992

	AUGUST			CALENDAR YEAR TO DATE		
	1992	1991	% Change	1992	1991	% Change
ALL MAJOR APPLIANCES**	3,857.0	3,566.1	8.2%	30,439.3	28,985.0	5.0%
COOKING - TOTAL	1,210.6	1,133.1	6.8%	8,316.8	7,704.0	8.0%
ELECTRIC RANGES - TOTAL	289.2	273.3	5.8%	2,244.2	2,132.6	5.2%
Free Standing	205.0	196.1	4.5%	1,576.5	1,500.6	5.1%
Built-In	51.6	47.5	8.6%	390.9	366.2	6.7%
Surface Cooking Units	32.6	29.7	9.8%	276.8	265.7	4.2%
GAS RANGES - TOTAL	192.7	188.7	2.1%	1,615.4	1,500.9	7.6%
Free Standing	166.4	161.7	2.9%	1,371.5	1,271.8	7.8%
Built-In	5.6	6.6	-15.2%	57.5	57.4	0.2%
Surface Cooking Units	20.7	20.4	1.5%	186.4	171.7	8.6%
MICROWAVE OVENS/RANGES***	736.3	679.2	8.4%	4,517.4	4,130.6	9.4%
HOME LAUNDRY - TOTAL	968.1	869.5	11.3%	7,244.3	6,949.4	4.2%
AUTOMATIC WASHERS	574.5	524.6	9.5%	4,233.8	4,138.4	2.3%
DRYERS - TOTAL	393.6	344.9	14.1%	3,010.5	2,811.0	7.1%
Electric	302.5	265.7	13.9%	2,272.4	2,159.1	5.2%
Gas	91.1	79.2	15.0%	738.1	651.8	13.2%
KITCHEN CLEAN UP - TOTAL	707.2	668.3	5.8%	5,202.5	5,057.0	2.9%
DISPOSERS	388.9	355.3	9.5%	2,710.3	2,630.9	3.0%
DISHWASHERS - TOTAL	309.9	300.7	3.1%	2,415.5	2,340.5	3.2%
Built-In	295.3	284.8	3.7%	2,293.3	2,205.5	4.0%
Portable	14.6	15.9	-8.2%	122.2	135.0	-9.5%
COMPACTORS	8.3	12.3	-32.5%	76.7	85.6	-10.4%
FOOD PRESERVATION - TOTAL	825.3	811.4	1.7%	6,209.2	5,880.9	5.6%
REFRIGERATORS	659.8	673.4	-2.0%	5,115.5	4,953.9	3.3%
FREEZERS - TOTAL	165.5	138.0	19.9%	1,093.8	927.0	18.0%
Chest	97.0	74.6	30.0%	636.7	514.3	23.8%
Upright	68.5	63.4	8.0%	457.1	412.8	10.7%
HOME COMFORT - TOTAL	145.9	83.8	74.1%	3,466.4	3,393.8	2.1%
ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS	105.8	62.6	69.0%	2,771.0	2,666.1	3.9%
DEHUMIDIFIERS	40.1	21.2	89.2%	695.4	727.6	-4.4%

* Includes shipments for the U.S. market whether imported or domestically produced, and export shipments
** Numbers do not add because of overlapping product categories.
*** Includes microwave ovens and combination microwave ovens/ranges.

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TRENDS AND FORECASTS
INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS OF MAJOR APPLIANCES*, THOUSANDS OF UNITS

PRODUCT	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992**	1993**
Cooking - Total	7,598	10,429	14,099	16,404	18,091	18,586	16,973	16,378	13,862	12,630	13,852	13,882
ELECTRIC RANGES - TOTAL	2,331	3,132	3,456	3,551	3,741	3,841	3,708	3,529	3,444	3,309	3,439	3,546
Free Standing	1,619	2,190	2,496	2,568	2,721	2,691	2,566	2,401	2,358	2,332	2,410	2,484
Built-In	417	563	577	574	598	655	635	648	632	568	604	628
Surface Cooking Units	295	378	382	409	423	495	506	480	455	409	425	434
GAS RANGES - TOTAL	1,368	1,573	1,732	1,814	2,090	2,319	2,457	2,414	2,429	2,401	2,538	2,585
Free-Standing#	1,289	1,477	1,626	1,694	1,826	2,022	2,101	2,055	2,061	2,041	2,157	2,199
Built-In#	79	96	106	120	114	120	127	112	106	92	95	98
Surface Cooking Units					150	176	230	247	262	268	286	288
MICROWAVE OVEN/RANGES	4,071	5,933	9,132	10,883	12,444	12,610	10,988	10,598	8,126	7,012	7,967	7,844
Home Laundry - Total	6,746	7,910	8,733	9,192	10,009	10,635	10,791	10,825	10,512	10,510	10,803	10,992
WASHERS - TOTAL	4,019	4,616	5,049	5,279	5,765	5,998	6,190	6,252	6,192	6,197	6,322	6,440
Automatic	3,955	4,546	5,049	5,279	5,765	5,998	6,190	6,252	6,192	6,197	6,322	6,440
Wringer & Other	64	69										
DRYERS - TOTAL	2,727	3,294	3,684	3,914	4,245	4,637	4,601	4,574	4,320	4,313	4,482	4,552
Electric	2,143	2,622	2,931	3,080	3,309	3,600	3,554	3,522	3,318	3,295	3,409	3,455
Gas	584	672	754	834	936	1,037	1,047	1,052	1,002	1,018	1,073	1,097
Kitchen Clean Up - Total	5,098	6,822	7,758	7,858	8,381	8,696	8,383	8,244	7,959	7,702	7,864	8,182
DISPOSERS	2,780	3,544	4,085	4,105	4,269	4,438	4,233	4,363	4,137	4,002	4,064	4,144
DISHWASHERS - TOTAL	2,170	3,121	3,491	3,575	3,918	4,032	3,907	3,668	3,637	3,571	3,670	3,900
Built-In	1,956	2,859	3,245	3,327	3,663	3,763	3,647	3,456	3,419	3,360	3,458	3,690
Portable	214	262	246	248	255	269	260	213	218	211	212	210
COMPACTORS	148	157	182	177	194	226	243	213	185	129	130	139
Food Preservation - Total	5,704	6,818	7,275	7,316	7,733	8,232	8,576	8,317	8,397	8,687	8,917	9,135
REFRIGERATORS##	4,364	5,477	5,994	6,081	6,510	6,972	7,227	7,099	7,101	7,273	7,438	7,671
FREEZERS - TOTAL	1,340	1,341	1,281	1,236	1,222	1,260	1,349	1,219	1,296	1,414	1,480	1,465
Chest	726	702	650	634	661	692	727	677	723	794	832	818
Upright	614	639	631	602	561	567	622	541	573	620	648	647
Home Comfort - Total	3,201	2,439	3,694	3,610	3,371	4,503	5,310	5,696	4,892	3,552	3,731	4,049
ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS	2,761	2,002	3,103	3,022	2,816	3,798	4,637	5,091	4,150	2,807	2,988	3,300
DEHUMIDIFIERS	440	437	591	588	555	704	673	605	743	745	744	749
All Major Appliances	28,346	34,417	41,558	44,020	47,585	50,652	50,033	49,461	45,623	43,080	45,167	46,239

* Includes shipments for the U.S. market whether imported or domestically produced, and export shipments.
** Forecasts as of August, 1992.
# Drop-in gas range data included in free-standing total for 1982 through 1984; thereafter drop-in gas range data included in built-in total.
Includes units of 6.5 cu. ft. and over.

Total industry shipments may not add due to rounding and overlapping categories.

9/15/92